

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 WELLIN 01001 010058Z
ACTION SCS-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-12 ISO-00 CA-01 H-02 L-03 HA-05
PPTE-00 DEAE-00 /042 W
-----069057 010104Z /72

P 280427Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5036
INFO AMCONSUL AUCKLAND
AMCONSUL BRISBANE
AMCONSUL MELBOURNE
AMCONSUL PERTH
AMCONSUL SYDNEY
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY SUVA
CENPACSARCOORD HONOLULU
COGARD STA PAGO PAGO

UNCLAS WELLINGTON 01001

E.O. 11652 N/A
TAGS: CASC (EWING, MERCEDES) SNAR
SUBJECT: CONGRESSMAN FLYNT'S INQUIRY CONCERNING MERCEDES
EWING

REF: (A) WELLINGTON 00491 (NOTAL) (B) CONGRESSMAN FLYNT-
AMBASSADOR TELCON FEBRUARY 28

1. CONGRESSMAN FLYNT TODAY TELEPHONED ME TO REQUEST MY
ASSISTANCE IN LOCATING MERCEDES "MERCY" EWING, A
PASSENGER ABOARD THE CATAMARAN "I LOVE YOU II". PLEASE
PASS TO CONGRESSMAN FLYNT THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN
REF A AND THIS MESSAGE.

2. SINCE MY CONVERSATION WITH CONGRESSMAN FLYNT THIS
MORNING (REF B), I HAVE LEARNED THAT AT ABOUT NOON ON
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 WELLIN 01001 010058Z

FEBRUARY 5, 1978, THE VESSEL "TASMAN ENTERPRISE", WHILE
ENROUTE FROM BRISBANE TO NORTH CAPE, SIGHTED THE
STARBOARD HULL OF A CATAMARAN UPSIDE DOWN IN THE WATER
AT 32 DEGREES 04S 168 DEGREES 02 E. THE WRECKAGE WAS
APPROXIMATELY 60 FEET IN LENGTH, WITH AN ORANGE HULL
AND WHITE TRIM. THE MARKINGS, ACCORDING TO THE MARINE
DIVISION OF THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT, MATCH THOSE OF

THE "I LOVE YOU II".

3. CAPTAIN HUNT, MARINE DIVISION, NEW ZEALAND SEARCH AND RESCUE, HAS CALCULATED A "BEST ESTIMATE" OF WHERE THE WRECKAGE MIGHT BE LOCATED ON MARCH 4, 1978, TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION PREVAILING WINDS AND CURRENTS IN THAT AREA OF THE PACIFIC OCEAN. CAPTAIN HUNT BELIEVES THAT, WITH LUCK, THE WRECKAGE MAY BE FOUND ON OR ABOUT MARCH 4 IN THE VICINITY OF 30 DEGREES S, 171 DEGREES 30E.

4. THE USCG BURTON ISLAND IS SCHEDULED TO DEPART WELLINGTON AT 1000 HOURS, MARCH 4, ENROUTE TO SUVA. WITH APPROXIMATELY HALF TO ONE DAY ADDITIONAL STEAMING TIME SHE COULD PASS THROUGH THE AREA CALCULATED. USING THE HELICOPTERS ON BOARD THEY MIGHT, WITH LUCK, SPOT THE WRECKAGE AND MAKE POSITIVE IDENTIFICATION.

5. I STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT YOU ASK THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO INSTRUCT THE BURTON ISLAND TO ATTEMPT TO LOCATE THE WRECKAGE FIRST SEEN ON FEBRUARY 5. SELDEN

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978WELLIN01001
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780092-1086
Format: TEL
From: WELLINGTON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978021/aaaaaaic.tel
Line Count: 81
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 70db32cc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SCS
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 WELLINGTON 491
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3422663
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONGRESSMAN FLYNT'S INQUIRY CONCERNING MERCEDES EWING
TAGS: CASC, SNAR, (EWING, MERCEDES)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/70db32cc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014